



Propane Watch

March 22, 2000

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

- U.S. inventories of propane slipped lower last week as stocks fell by 0.1 million barrels (MMB) and ended the week of March 17, 2000 at an estimated 21.4 MMB. Regional inventories were only slightly lower in the East Coast, down by less than 0.1 MMB, but in the Gulf Coast, inventories posted a slightly larger decline of 0.2 MMB. Inventories in the Midwest reported the only increase during the week, up 0.1 MMB. U.S. inventories continued at a level below the normal range for this time of year, while regional inventories, except in the Midwest, continued at levels within the normal range during this same period.
- The residential propane price remained relatively flat in all regions of the country over the past week. Between March 6 and 13, 2000, the residential propane price remained unchanged at 121.4 cents per gallon. However, the wholesale price was on the downswing as the overall average dropped by 2.3 cents to 59.4 cents per gallon from 61.7 cents. Compared with last year, the residential price increased by 32.5 cents per gallon from 88.9 cents per gallon, while the wholesale price was up 30.8 cents from 28.6 cents per gallon.

Propane Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I, II, and III (Thousand Barrels)

Districts	February 1999	March 1999	Week Ending				
			02/25/00	03/03/00	03/10/00	03/17/00	03/19/99
East Coast (PADD I)	3,075	1,875	^E 1,871	^E 1,871	^E 2,523	^E 2,468	2,290
Midwest (PADD II)	16,318	14,038	^E 6,452	^E 6,185	^E 6,671	^E 6,814	13,618
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	22,239	18,763	^E 12,327	^E 12,327	^E 11,629	^E 11,402	19,066
Total (PADD I-III)	41,632	34,676	^E 20,650	^E 20,383	^E 20,823	^E 20,684	34,974
U.S. Total	43,331	35,859	^E 21,414	^E 21,137	^E 21,593	^E 21,449	36,267

E=Estimated data.

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Monthly Petroleum Supply Reporting System and Form EIA-807, "Propane Telephone Survey."

Propane Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I and II (Cents per Gallon)

District	Wholesale					Residential				
	02/21/00	02/28/00	03/06/00	03/13/00	03/15/99	02/21/00	02/28/00	03/06/00	03/13/00	03/15/99
East Coast (PADD I)	80.9	72.9	66.7	65.1	32.0	144.5	143.5	^R 141.2	140.9	107.5
New England (PADD IX)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	145.1	145.7	^R 145.3	144.8	111.9
Central Atlantic (PADD IY)	80.8	75.8	67.8	66.4	33.3	145.7	145.7	142.4	142.7	109.1
Lower Atlantic (PADD IZ)	81.1	69.3	65.4	63.5	30.3	141.0	136.1	134.6	132.9	99.4
Midwest (PADD II)	60.9	59.9	59.9	57.4	27.6	106.9	107.1	106.6	106.7	74.9
Average	66.1	63.3	61.7	59.4	28.6	123.0	122.7	121.4	121.4	88.9

NA=Not Available.

R=Revised.

Source: Wholesale propane prices are based on Oil Price Information Service. Residential propane prices are available from data supplied by 23 State Energy Offices from October through March on a semi-monthly basis.

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